



Chronic Homelessness Plan: Recommendation Review

AHFE COORDINATING BOARD

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

How we got here...

- Primary planning questions forwarded by Executive Committee in April 2017
- Interviews with people with current experience of chronic homelessness
- Engagement through AHFE Work Groups to develop/refine
- Coordinating Board review:
 - in small groups January 3
 - via online survey January 15 – 24 (extended to January 29)

Focus on racial equity and use of lens

- Used PIT and Coordinated Access data to assess disparities in chronic homelessness
- Intentional outreach through culturally-specific providers and to people of color with lived experience of chronic homelessness
- Equity-focused SWOT
- Use of equity lens during each review of draft recommendations

Today

- Review Coordinating Board feedback from small groups and surveys
- Review subsequent refinement of recommendations
- Review highlights from ease/impact assessment and organization of recommendations
- In small groups, solicit feedback and context for Executive Committee
- Formally approve recommendations

From here

Forward to Executive Committee for:

- initial prioritization
- direction for implementation planning

What you said

- Need for:
 - expanded definitions, deeper understanding of homelessness and housing instability across *and* within communities of color
 - improved data quality and collection within communities of color
 - better training in trauma-informed care for service providers, public employees, and community members
- Clearer direction within recommendations, naming of affected communities

How it shaped recommendations

“We know significant specific and differential disparities remain in chronic homelessness for multiple communities of color, and that HUD definitions leave out many in need of deeply affordable housing and essential support services. Specifically . . . the long-term housing and service needs of many in the Latino and Asian communities are not well represented in Point in Time count data. Similarly, while Point in Time data reflect disparities in street homelessness and emergency shelter use for African Americans, Native Americans, and Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, the unique experiences of each community are not fully reflected in existing count methods.”

“. . . It is important to recognize how homelessness and housing instability are experienced differently within and across multiple communities of color, the detriment to these communities when we silo them into broad categories, and the marginalization that occurs when we don’t prioritize strategies that mitigate existing disparities.”



How it shaped recommendations

“Strategies reflected in this document will only help to recognize and meaningfully address racial disparities in homelessness and housing instability if subsequent planning includes additional specific focus on and input from affected communities of color.”

“Additionally, as we recognize opportunities to engage community members experiencing chronic homelessness both in the community and through service provision, it will be valuable to have a shared understanding of trauma-informed care and services as we implement new and shape existing strategies to become more culturally-responsive and trauma-informed.”

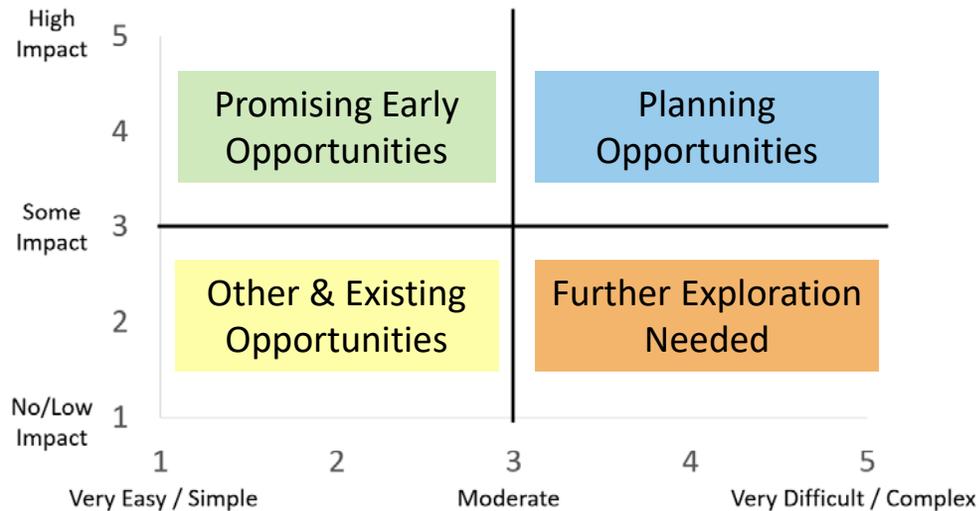
How it shaped recommendations

New and revised recommendations:

- Expand culturally relevant information access strategies
- Expand language options through 211
- Create plan to address disparate impacts on communities of color in shelter
- Improve compensation for shelter staff to increase staff retention, return on training investments, and quality of services
- Increase rent assistance resources and access to affordable housing for placement from unsheltered into permanent housing

Organization

Ease-Impact Matrix Exercise



- **Serving the Unsheltered**
 - Services Information
 - Basic Services and Safety
 - Public Space Management
- **Safety Off the Streets**
 - Shelter Capacity
 - Services Assessment and Evaluation
 - Support Services
- **Housing & Supportive Services**
 - System Equity
 - Supportive Services
 - Permanent Housing

Equity lens

1. Policy or decision under review: Provide context and guidance to Executive Committee to accompany recommendations for chronic homelessness plan
2. Groups experiencing disparities in chronic homelessness:
 - PIT: African American, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Native American
 - Other primary sources: Additional long-term housing and service needs within and across those groups and among Hispanic/Latino and Asian communities
3. Questions 3 – 6 embed in your review today
4. Next step: Coordinating Board reviews refined recommendations at February meeting; highlight changes with equity focus

Review and small groups

1. Review questions 3 – 6 of Equity Lens
 - Which recommendations are particularly important to improve racial equity?
 - What additional planning and engagement should the Executive Committee direct to assure that strategies are relevant and effective within multiple communities of color?
2. What values should guide EC direction for implementation planning?
3. As we prioritize this work, highlight recommendations that illustrate:
 - Guiding values
 - Any cautions or concerns
4. Do you have any remaining feedback as you forward the recommendations?